25th Congress, 2d Session. [Doc. No. 110.] Ho. of Reps. Executive.

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES.

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

A Report of the Director of the Mint, showing the Operations of that institution during the year 1837.

JANUARY 17, 1838.
Read, and laid upon the table.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a report from the Director of the Mint, showing the operations of that institution during the year 1837; and, also, the progress made towards the completion of the branch mints, in North Carolina, Georgia, and Louisiana.

M. VAN BUREN.

JANUARY 16, 1838.

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,
Philadelphia, January 13, 1838.

SIR: In compliance with the law which requires that, "in the month of January of every year, the Director shall make report to the President of the United States of the operations of the Mint and its branches for the year preceding," I have the honor to submit to you the following statement:

The coinage executed in 1837 has amounted to $3,299,898; comprising $1,148,305 in gold, $2,096,010 in silver, and $55,583 in copper, and composed of 13,010,721 pieces of coin. (Statement A.)

The deposites of gold within the year amounted to $1,145,000; of which only $282,000 was derived from the mines of the United States. (Statements B and C.)

The necessities of the circulation having required a large amount of small coins, the proportion of such coins struck in 1837 greatly exceeds

Thomas Allen, print.

that of any former year; the number of pieces of less value than the half dollar being more than nine millions. (Tabular statement D.)

The laws authorizing deposites with the Mint of public funds, "for the purchase of bullion for coinage," and "for enabling the Mint to make the returns to depositors with as little delay as possible," have proved of great benefit in our own operations, and, during the late derangements in the currency, of great importance to the public interests. At the close of the year there was in our vaults, on these accounts, the amount of $789,218 73 in gold and silver; and there had been withdrawn, on Treasury drafts, coins to the amount of $476,449 08.

The increased efficiency of the Mint, and the possession of the Government deposites, have enabled us, during the past year, for the first time, to avoid the delays to which we were formerly forced to subject depositors of bullion, and to make returns to them in coins as soon as the value of their deposites could be ascertained. I have, therefore, on this occasion, the satisfaction to report that not a single dollar of deposites made before the close of the year remains unpaid.

The machinery of the New Orleans branch mint was executed, and the steam-engine set in action, in May last; and there would have been no difficulty in putting the mint in full operation, but for the apprehensions from the climate. Two of the officers and all the workmen were from the Middle States, and unacclimated; and I was advised by the resident officers that they would incur great risk in going to New Orleans in the warm season. The occurrence of a fatal epidemic, soon after, proved that these apprehensions were too well founded; and the officers and men from this place were thereby prevented from reaching New Orleans before the beginning of December. They are now, however, all at their stations, and making every exertion to commence the operations of the mint at an early day.

The machinery for the branch mint at Charlotte, North Carolina, was shipped to Charleston in April; and, in the following month, competent workmen were sent forward to put it in operation. Great delay and difficulty occurred, however, in transporting the heavy machinery to Charlotte, so that the steam-engine was not set in action until the middle of August.

The machinery for the branch mint at Dahlonega, in Georgia, was sent to Savannah in May, and difficulty and delay also occurred in its transportation thence by land. After the workmen employed at Charlotte had finished their task, they proceeded to Dahlonega, to erect the machinery there; and they completed this work early in November.

To put up the furnaces and refineries of these mints, masons were sent from Philadelphia; and, in order that this important part of the work might be properly executed, as well as for the purpose of giving advice and aid in other essential points, one of the officers of this Mint was requested to go to Charlotte and Dahlonega; and I have reason to believe that his visit was of great importance.

The mint building at New Orleans is completed, so far as is necessary for the mint operations; only one of the wings, intended for the residence of the officers, being unfinished. The mint at Dahlonega is nearly completed, except as to the enclosure and out-buildings. The mint at Charlotte is entirely finished, and has commenced operations, so far as to be

receiving deposites and assaying. The certificates of this branch are, for the present, paid here ; so that it may, in this way, retain gold to furnish a fund, for the purpose of enabling it hereafter to make prompt payments on the spot, for the bullion that may be furnished for coinage.

In consequence of the location of the new mints in places where there are no manufactories and few mechanical resources, it has been necessary to send from here every article of machinery and apparatus, many even of the ordinary materials, and all the workmen required for erecting the machinery, furnaces, refineries, and other fixtures. If, therefore, there has been much delay in getting these mints in operation, it is but just to observe that the task presented peculiar difficulties. The delay, moreover, has been accompanied by one important advantage : since it has given full opportunity to the officers and the principal hands to perfect themselves in their respective departments, by actual practice in this Mint; so that, when they begin their operations at the branches, the public may have confidence in their ability to discharge them with skill and accuracy.

I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect, your faithful servant,

R. M. PATTERSON,
Director of the Mint.

To the PRESIDENT *of the United States.*

A.

Statement of the coinage at the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia, in the year 1837.

Denominations.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Value.	Value.
Gold:				
Half eagles -	207,121	–	$1,035,605	
Quarter eagles -	45,080	–	112,700	
		252,201		$1,148,305
Silver:				
Half dollars -	3,629,820	–	$1,814,910	
Quarter dollars -	252,400	–	63,100	
Dimes -	1,042,000	–	104,200	
Half dimes -	2,276,000	–	113,800	
		7,200,220		2,096,010
Copper:				
Cents -	–	5,558,300	–	55,583
Whole number	of pieces -	13,010,721	Whole value	3,299,898

B.

Statement of deposites of Gold for coinage, at the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia, 1837.

The deposites of gold for coinage amount to - -		$1,145,000
Of which was received from the United States, viz:		
Virginia, - - -	$52,100	
North Carolina, - -	116,900	
South Carolina, - -	29,400	
Georgia, - - -	83,600	
	$282,000	
Coins of the United States of old standard,	21,800	
Coins and bullion from Europe, - -	633,500	
Coins and bullion from Mexico and S. America,	174,400	
Bullion from Africa, - - -	22,100	
Jewelry, - - - - -	11,200	
		1,145,000

C.

Statement of the annual amounts of deposites of Gold, for coinage, at the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia, from the mines of the United States.

	Virginia.	North Carolina.	South Carolina.	Georgia.	Tennessee.	Alabama.	Not ascertained.	Total.
1824	–	$5,000	–	–	–	–	–	$5,000
1825	–	17,000	–	–	–	–	–	17,000
1826	–	20,000	–	–	–	–	–	20,000
1827	–	21,000	–	–	–	–	–	21,000
1828	–	46,000	–	–	–	–	–	46,000
1829	$2,500	134,000	$3,500	–	–	–	–	140,000
1830	24,000	204,000	26,000	$212,000	–	–	–	466,000
1831	26,000	294,000	22,000	176,000	$1,000	$1,000	–	520,000
1832	34,000	458,000	45,000	140,000	1,000	–	–	678,000
1833	104,000	475,000	66,000	216,000	7,000	–	–	868,000
1834	62,000	380,000	38,000	415,000	3,000	–	–	898,000
1835	60,400	263,500	42,400	319,900	100	–	$12,200	698,500
1836	62,000	148,100	55,200	201,400	300	–	–	467,000
1837	52,100	116,900	29,400	83,600	–	–	–	282,000
	427,000	2,582,500	327,500	1,763,900	12,400	1,000	12,200	5,126,500

D.

Tabular statement of the amount of coinage at the Mint of the United States, in the several denominations of coin, since the commencement of its operations until the 31st of December, 1837, inclusive.

Periods.	Eagles.	Half Eagles.	Quarter Eagles.	Dollars.	Half Dollars.	Quarter Dollars.	Dimes.	Half Dimes.
1793								
1794	2,795	8,707	–	204,791	323,144	–	–	86,416
1795								
1796	6,934	6,196	963	72,920	3,918	5,894	22,135	10,230
1797	8,323	3,609	859	7,776	–	252	25,261	44,527
1798	7,974	24,867	614	327,536	–	–	27,550	
1799	17,483	7,451	480	423,515				
1800	25,965	11,622	–	220,920	–	–	21,760	24,000
1801	29,254	26,006	–	54,454	30,289	–	34,640	33,910
1802	15,090	53,176	2,612	41,650	29,890	–	10,975	13,010
1803	8,979	33,506	423	66,064	31,715	–	33,040	37,850
1804	9,795	30,475	3,327	19,570	156,519	6,738	8,265	
1805	–	33,183	1,781	321	211,722	121,394	120,780	15,600
1806	–	64,093	1,616	–	839,576	206,124		
1807	–	84,093	6,812	–	1,051,576	220,643	165,000	
1808	–	55,578	2,710	–	1,368,600			
1809	–	33,875	–	–	1,405,810	–	44,710	
1810	–	100,287	–	–	1,276,276	–	6,355	
1811	–	99,581	–	–	1,203,644	–	65,180	
1812	–	58,087	–	–	1,628,059			
1813	–	95,428	–	–	1,241,903			
1814	–	15,454	–	–	1,039,075	–	421,500	

1815	–	635	–	–	–	69,232		
1816	–	–	–	–	47,150	20,003		
1817	–	–	–	–	1,215,567			
1818	–	48,588	–	–	1,960,322	361,174		
1819	–	51,723	–	–	2,208,000	144,000		
1820	–	263,806	–	–	751,122	127,444	942,587	
1821	–	34,641	6,448	–	1,305,797	216,851	1,186,512	
1822	–	17,796	–	–	1,559,573	64,080	100,000	
1823	–	14,485	–	–	1,694,200	17,800	440,000	
1824	–	17,340	2,600	–	3,504,954			
1825	–	29,060	4,434	–	2,943,166	168,000	510,000	
1826	–	18,069	760	–	4,004,180			
1827	–	24,913	2,800	–	5,493,400	4,000	1,215,000	
1828	–	28,029	–	–	3,075,200	102,000	125,000	
1829	–	57,442	3,403	–	3,712,156	–	770,000	1,230,000
1830	–	126,351	4,540	–	4,764,800	–	510,000	1,240,000
1831	–	140,594	4,520	–	5,873,660	398,000	771,350	1,242,700
1832	–	157,487	4,400	–	4,797,000	320,000	522,500	965,000
1833	–	193,630	4,160	–	5,206,000	156,000	485,000	1,370,000
1834	–	732,169	117,370	–	6,412,004	286,000	635,000	1,480,000
1835	–	371,534	131,402	–	5,352,006	1,952,000	1,410,000	2,760,000
1836	–	553,147	547,986	1,000	6,546,200	472,000	1,190,000	1,900,000
1837	–	207,121	45,080	–	3,629,820	252,400	1,042,000	2,276,000
	132,592	3,933,834	902,100	1,440,517	87,897,993	5,692,029	12,862,100	14,729,243

STATEMENT D—Continued.

Periods.	Cents.	Half Cents.	Pieces of Gold.	Value of Gold.	Pieces of Silver.	Value of Silver.	Pcs. of Copper.	Val. of Copper.
1793								
1794	1,066,033	142,534	11,502	$71,485	614,351	$370,683 80	1,208,567	$11,373
1795								
1796	974,700	115,480	14,093	102,727 50	115,097	79,077 50	1,090,180	10,324 40
1797	897,510	107,048	12,791	103,422 50	77,816	12,591 45	1,004,558	9,510 34
1798	979,700	–	33,455	205,610	355,086	330,291	979,700	9,797
1799	904,585	12,167	25,414	213,285	423,515	423,515	916,752	9,107 68
1800	2,822,175	214,530	37,587	317,760	266,680	224,296	3,033,705	29,279 40
1801	1,362,837	–	55,260	422,570	153,293	74,758	1,362,837	13,628 37
1802	3,435,100	14,366	70,878	423,310	95,525	58,343	3,449,466	34,422 83
1803	2,471,353	97,900	42,908	258,377 50	168,669	87,118	2,569,253	25,203 03
1804	756,838	1,055,312	43,597	258,642 50	191,092	100,340 50	1,812,150	12,844 94
1805	941,116	814,464	34,964	170,367 50	469,817	149,388 50	1,755,580	13,483 48
1806	348,000	356,000	65,709	324,505	1,045,700	471,319	704,000	5,260
1807	727,221	476,000	90,905	437,495	1,437,219	597,448 75	1,203,221	9,652 21
1808	1,109,000	400,000	58,288	284,665	1,368,600	684,300	1,509,000	13,090
1809	222,867	1,154,572	33,875	169,375	1,450,520	707,376	1,377,439	8,001 53
1810	2,458,500	215,000	100,287	501,435	1,282,631	638,773 50	1,673,500	15,660
1811	218,025	63,140	99,581	497,905	1,268,824	608,340	281,165	2,495 95
1812	1,075,500	–	58,087	290,435	1,628,059	814,029 50	1,075,500	10,755
1813	418,000	–	95,428	417,140	1,241,903	620,951 50	418,000	4,180
1814	357,830	–	15,454	77,270	1,460,575	561,687 50	357,830	3,578 30
1815	–	–	635	3,175	69,232	17,308		
1816	2,820,982	–	–	–	67,153	28,575 75	2,820,982	28,209 82
1817	3,948,400	–	–	–	1,215,567	607,783 50	3,948,400	39,484

1818	3,167,000	–	48,588	242,940	2,321,496	1,070,454 50	3,167,000	31,670
1819	2,671,000	–	51,723	258,615	2,352,000	1,140,000	2,671,000	26,710
1820	4,407,550	–	263,806	1,319,030	1,821,153	501,680 70	4,407,550	44,075 50
1821	389,000	–	41,089	189,325	2,709,160	825,762 45	389,000	3,890
1822	2,072,339	–	17,796	88,980	1,723,653	805,806 50	2,072,339	20,723 39
1823	–	–	14,485	72,425	2,152,000	895,550		
1824	1,262,000	–	19,940	93,200	3,504,954	1,752,477	1,262,000	12,620
1825	1,461,100	63,000	33,494	156,385	3,621,166	1,564,583	1,524,000	14,926
1826	1,517,425	234,000	18,829	92,245	4,004,180	2,002,090	1,751,425	16,344 25
1827	2,357,732	–	27,713	131,565	6,712,400	2,869,200	2,357,732	23,577 32
1828	2,260,624	606,000	28,029	140,145	3,302,200	1,575,600	2,866,624	25,636 24
1829	1,414,500	487,000	60,845	295,717 50	5,712,156	1,994,578	1,901,500	16,580
1830	1,711,500	–	130,891	643,105	6,514,800	2,495,400	1,711,500	17,115
1831	3,359,260	2,200	145,114	714,270	8,285,710	3,175,600	3,361,460	33,603 60
1832	2,362,000	–	161,887	798,435	6,604,500	2,579,000	2,362,000	23,620
1833	2,739,000	154,000	197,790	978,550	7,217,000	2,759,000	2,893,000	28,160
1834	1,855,100	120,000	849,539	3,954,270	8,813,004	3,415,002	1,975,100	19,151
1835	3,878,400	141,000	502,936	2,186,175	11,474,006	3,443,003	4,019,400	39,489
1836	2,111,000	398,000	1,101,133	4,135,700	10,109,200	3,606,100	2,509,000	23,100
1837	5,558,300	–	252,201	1,148,305	7,200,220	2,096,010	5,558,300	55,583
	75,871,102	7,440,713	4,968,526	$23,250,340	122,621,882	$48,835,192 90	83,311,815	$795,915 58

RECAPITULATION.

Periods.	Whole coinage in pieces.	Whole coinage in value.
1793 } 1794 } 1795 }	1,834,420	$453,541 80
1796	1,219,370	192,129 40
1797	1,095,165	125,524 29
1798	1,368,241	545,698 00
1799	1,365,681	645,907 68
1800	3,337,972	571,335 40
1801	1,571,390	510,956 37
1802	3,615,869	516,075 83
1803	2,780,830	370,698 53
1804	2,046,839	371,827 94
1805	2,260,361	333,239 48
1806	1,815,409	801,084 00
1807	2,731,345	1,044,595 96
1808	2,935,888	982,055 00
1809	2,861,834	884,752 53
1810	3,056,418	1,155,868 50
1811	1,649,570	1,108,740 95
1812	2,761,646	1,115,219 50
1813	1,755,331	1,102,271 50
1814	1,833,859	642,535 80
1815	69,867	20,483 00
1816	2,888,135	56,785 57
1817	5,163,967	647,267 50
1818	5,537,084	1,345,064 50
1819	5,074,723	1,425,325 00
1820	6,492,509	1,864,786 20
1821	3,139,249	1,018,977 45
1822	3,813,788	915,509 89
1823	2,166,485	967,975 00
1824	4,786,894	1,858,297 00
1825	5,178,760	1,735,894 00
1826	5,774,434	2,110,679 25
1827	9,097,845	3,024,342 32
1828	6,196,853	1,741,381 24
1829	7,674,501	2,306,875 50
1830	8,357,191	3,155,620 00
1831	11,792,284	3,923,473 60
1832	9,128,387	3,401,055 00
1833	10,307,790	3,765,710 00
1834	11,637,643	7,388,423 00
1835	15,996,342	5,668,667 00
1836	13,719,333	7,764,900 00
1837	13,010,721	3,299,898 00
Total	210,902,223	72,881,448 48